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CLAIMS:

1.   Record carrier (1) comprising a predetermined spiral which spiral can be
described using parameters, the record carrier further comprising a side-channel encoded by
the parameters being modulated in a pre-determined way.

5   2.   Record carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the predetermined spiral is for
storing information in sectors, the sectors being addressable with bit-addresses, the relation
between the bit-addresses and the parameters describing the spiral approximately given by
the following formula:

$$\begin{cases} r = \dfrac{D_{tp}}{2\pi}\Phi \\ \varphi = \Phi \bmod 2\pi \end{cases} , \quad \Phi \quad \sqrt{\dfrac{4\pi L_{cb}}{D_{tp}}\ell + (\Phi_0)^2}$$

10   where r and φ are polar co-ordinates, Φ is the cumulative angle, L_{cb} is the channel-bit length,
D_{tp} is the trackpitch, Φ_0 is the angle at which the first bit on the spiral is written, and l is the
bit-address of a sector.

3.   Record carrier as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the parameter modulated is
15   the channel bit length.

4.   Record carrier as claimed in claim 3, wherein the channel bit length in a first
area has a different value than the channel bit length in another, second area.

20   5.   Record carrier as claimed in claim 3 or 4, wherein the channel bit length is
modulated into different bands (A,B,C,D) on the record carrier,

6.   Record carrier as claimed in claim 5, wherein the channel bit length modulated
is constant within a band.

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7.   Record carrier as claimed in claim 5 or 6, wherein bits forming the side-
channel are encoded in the parameters modulated in each band.

8.   Record carrier as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the parameter modulated is the trackpitch.

5   9.   Record carrier as claimed in claim 1 or 2, where the record carrier adheres to a certain standard specification, wherein the parameters modulated adhere to the requirements on the parameters according to the standard specification.

10.   Record carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the side-channel is used in an
10   information access and/or copy protection system.

11.   Record carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the side-channel is used to distinguish a read-only record carrier from recordable and rewritable record carriers.

15   12.   Record carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the record carrier further comprises a computer program comprising software for detecting the side-channel.

13.   Record carrier as claimed in claim 12, where the record carrier further comprises spiral information, wherein the software is also arranged for comparing the side-
20   channel detected with the spiral information.